IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	*Application No.*	(to be assigned) US National Phase of PCT/FI01/00103
	Filing Date *Intl. Filing Date*	22 February 2002 06 February 2001
	First Named Inventor	Jussi KAUHANEN
	Group Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket No.	2630-114
Title of the Invention: **DIAGNOSIS OF A PERSON'S RISK OF DEVELOPING ALCOHOLISM**		

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified U.S. National Phase of PCT/FI01/00103, filed concurrently herewith, please amend the application as shown on the attached pages.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the new paragraph found on the following pages after line 1 on page 1.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 as shown on the following pages.

Marked-up copies of the original text of the amended claims are attached to this preliminary amendment. Material inserted is indicated by underlining and material deleted is enclosed in brackets.

New Paragraph of Specification for Insertion After Line 1 of Page 1

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. §371 of PCT/FI01/00103 filed on 6 February 2001. The present application is further related to U.S. provisional patent application Serial No. 60/219,324 filed on 21 March 2000, to which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119(e).

Clean Copy of Amended Claims

1 (amended). A method for diagnosing a person's susceptibility for having a risk for the development of alcoholism, said method comprising determining whether said subject has a polymorphism in the signal peptide part of the human preproNPY, said polymorphism comprising a substitution of proline for leucine at position 7 in the signal peptide part of said human preproNPY, said polymorphism being indicative of a risk for the development of alcoholism.

2 (amended). The method according to claim 1 wherein said polymorphism in the signal peptide part of the human preproNPY of said subject is determined by subjecting a position 7 allele specific oligonuleotide probe to a sample from said subject, said sample comprising a target polynucleotide of said human preproNPY.

3 (amended). The method according to claim 1 wherein said polymorphism in the signal peptide part of the human preproNPY of said subject is determined by immunoassay where a sample from said subject is contacted with an antibody capable of binding the signal peptide part of said human preproNPY or said NPY peptide associated with any other cleavage product of said human preproNPY.

4 (amended). A method for treating a person, diagnosed for having a risk for the development of alcoholism according to claim 1, for the prevention of developing alcoholism or for alleviating or curing alcoholism, comprising administering to said person an effective amount of an agent counteracting the influence of the mutated NPY gene.

7 (amended). A method for treating a person, diagnosed for having a risk for the development of alcoholism according to claim 1, for the prevention of developing alcoholism or for alleviating or curing alcoholism, comprising subjecting the person to specific gene therapy aimed to repair the mutated NPY gene sequence.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to insert a cross reference to related applications. The amendments to the claims are made to correct minor typographical errors, to remove multiple dependencies and to more clearly describe the polymorphism, thus placing the claims in order for examination. No new matter has been added by these amendments, and their entry is therefore requested.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,					
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SIGNATURE			DATE	22 FEBRUARY 2002	
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Country	U.S.A.	*Telephone*	202-783-6040	*Fax*	202-783-6031

Attachments: Marked-Up Copies of Amendments

Amended Claims - Changes made

1 (amended). A method for diagnosing a person's susceptibility for having a risk for the development of alcoholism, said method comprising determining whether said subject has a polymorphism in the signal peptide part of the human preproNPY, said polymorphism comprising [the subsitution] a substitution of proline for leucine at [the] position 7 [leucine for proline] in the signal peptide part of said human preproNPY, said polymorphism being indicative of a risk for the development of alcoholism.

2 (amended). The method according to claim 1 wherein said polymorphism in the signal peptide part of the human preproNPY [at] of said subject is determined by subjecting a position 7 allele specific oligonuleotide probe to a sample from said subject, said sample comprising a target polynucleotide of said human preproNPY.

3 (amended). The method according to claim 1 wherein said polymorphism in the signal peptide part of the human preproNPY [at] of said subject is determined by immunoassay where a sample from said subject is contacted with an antibody capable of binding the signal peptide part of said human preproNPY or said NPY peptide associated with any other cleavage product of said human preproNPY.

4 (amended). A method for treating a person, diagnosed for having a risk for the development of alcoholism according to claim 1, [2 or 3,] for the prevention of developing [alcoholismor] alcoholism or for alleviating or curing alcoholism, comprising administering to said person an effective amount of an agent counteracting the influence of the mutated NPY gene.

7 (amended). A method for treating a person, diagnosed for having a risk for the development of alcoholism according to claim 1, [2 or 3,] for the prevention of developing alcoholism or for alleviating or curing alcoholism, comprising subjecting the person to specific gene therapy aimed to repair the mutated NPY gene sequence.

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